GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2615
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Farmers covered under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of crops/farmers targeted to be covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) during the current year and the number of farmers covered/benefited by the new crop insurance scheme so far;

(b) the details of the efforts being made to cover maximum crops under the said crop insurance scheme;

(c) the details of the measures taken by the Government to popularize the new crop insurance scheme among the farmers;

(d) whether the Government is considering to include fisheries under the said crop insurance scheme, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make the scheme fruitful and popular among the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) targets coverage of 30% of the total cropped area of the country during current financial year i.e. 2016-17. Loaning for Kharif 2016 season has commenced from 1st April, 2016 and coverage details are not made available by financial institutions/insurance companies.

(b): The PMFBY envisages coverage of food crops, oilseeds, pulses and annual commercial/ horticultural crops for which past yield data based on requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) is available and the State/UT Government has the capacity to conduct requisite number of CCEs to know the yield of the crop. Besides above crops, Perennial commercial/horticultural crops can be covered under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). State Governments are regularly persuaded to notify more and more crops under PMFBY.

(c): To enhance the coverage of farmers/areas and to popularize the PMFBY, Government is undertaking a comprehensive publicity and awareness programme to educate the farmers about the benefit of crop insurance schemes. Capacity building and training programmes for other stakeholders are also being organized. The salient activities under awareness campaign, involve the publicity of features & benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/gosti and organization of workshops/trainings and SMS through Kisan Portal etc. State governments/UTs are also being regularly persuaded to increase the coverage including notifying more crops under crop Insurance schemes. Recently, one day seminar/Kisan fair especially on the PMFBY has been organized at various Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) between 30th March to 5th April, 2016 throughout the country.

(d) No Madam. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(e): The new scheme provided enhanced coverage of risks, adequate sum insured, lower premium to the farmers, early settlement of claims, better administration and transparency etc. The scheme envisages coverage of 50% of the total cropped area under Crop Insurance in the country within next 2-3 years. Salient features of the PMFBY are at Annexure.

Premium rates under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) have also been reduced and brought at par with new scheme.